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This produced a discussion of the direction our group should go for continued existence with a small membership base. One step will be a further discussion of increasing dues to \$20.00 at the December meeting. It will be necessary to vote on this as regular dues are set at \$15.00.

The interesting graphics and photo capability of computers was discussed again as this is a rapidly expanding field.

Returning to our printing project, Rod suggested that we can probably control production costs sufficiently to assure a small profit.

Dick Wagner reported on the status of our meeting room at the Far West Federal Bank at Oregon City. The potential sale of the bank by the Government suggests that the meeting room may not exist for public use for more than a few months. Rod volunteered to do some checking at the Chamber of Commerce to see if there may be a meeting room available at no cost. Bob Evans reminded members that the recreation hall is available at Steves Mobile Park, which is suitable except parking is limited.

Merlin Raymond reminded members that the recent expansion of the US WEST telephone service area should make it more practical to communicate between computers.

Rod reported that member Gaylon Bench will be married again in the near future. Gaylon has offered to do a LSD geneology program discussion (for PCs) at a future meeting.

Guest Don Taylor showed members some sample Personal Computing magazines. This is a free publication which makes the price right.

The chairman conducted nominations for 1992 officers. Raymond Merlin and Jack Armstrong were nominated for the chairman position. Rod Gowen solved the Vice Chairman nomination by volunteering for that position. Dick Wagner volunteered to continue

with the Secretary position and Rod Gowen volunteered to be the Treasurer again. Voting for the Chairman position will take place at the December meeting. Ballots will not be used this year. Members who will not be at the December meeting are encouraged to let Rod know of their choice.

A motion was made and seconded to close the meeting, with an affirmative vote at 9:55 PM.

Dick Wagner, Secretary

## DUES DUE!!!!

by: Rod Gowen, Treasurer

Hey gang! It is time once again to dig deep and come up with your yearly contribution to the group! Your annual dues are due, and, just like the Fed, we are in real need this year! The treasury will NOT support another year of newsletters without a major transfusion of \$\$\$\$! If you wish to become or stay an active member of CCATS, then you will be asked to come up with your dues at the January meeting. We have also discussed and tabled until the December meeting, the need to increase our dues to \$20/year once again. We want as many members present to vote on it as possible.

Just to give you an idea of where we stand, we require \$510.00 to keep things going as they are now. Even if all of the existing paid members were to pay the \$15 currently owing, we would still have to come up with over 35 paid subscribers to THE PLOTTER to keep it going. Currently we have about 20 paid subscribers and an equal number of full paid members. If we increase the dues and get 15 renewals of memberships, we will only need 21 paid subscribers. This is do-able!

One project in the works - The Best Of The Plotter book - may bring in a few dollars, but we cannot rely on that. We are also always open for outright donations and have, in the past received a couple.

Please get your dues and subscriptions in early and help us keep THE PLOTTER alive and well!

# BITS & BYTES

by: Rod Gowen

In this column I try to bring you the latest and complete information and news available to me regarding the world of TS computing. One way that I can accomplish this is if I have the support of you, the reader, in collecting news that may be of interest to other readers. If you have any news, rumors or other tidbits of information that fits this description, why not send it along? We will be watching!

## MERRY CHRISTMAS ALL!

Doesn't seem possible, does it? But here it is again, Christmas and the end of another year. We, here in CCATS and with THE PLOTTER, sincerely hope that 1991 has been a good year for you and yours and want to pass along our hopes that you have a great 1992!

## ELECTION TIME AGAIN---

We are going to elect a new chairman at the December meeting. I hope that you will be there. Candidates for the office of Chairman are: Jack Armstrong and Merlin Raymond. The Vice-Chairman post was filled by Rod Gowen, a volunteer. Rod is also continuing on as Treasurer. Dick Wagner will continue as Secretary and Editor of THE PLOTTER. Bill and Alice Dunlop will continue as Librarians. Bob Evans will continue as Public Relations officer. With so few members, we all have to double up as most of the remaining members can not or will not offer to fill a position. We have to have a chairman who make most of the meetings and both of our nominees fill that requirement. Come and join us!

## T/SNUG NEWS-

Should have received another issue of the T/SNUG newsletter by now but it appears that it will be late. I am not worried yet. They NEED our full support to keep things going and to ensure the future of a national support group. Pass the word to any and all users of any Sinclair computer that there is support out there!

## RMG NEWS:

Not much to report on this front this month. The Zebra graphics are not yet shipping because they have not arrived YET! Soon--we hope! No news on the "SLIDESHOW" program for the 2068 either. There is a Christmas sale on until December 30th in case anyone is interested. You can get on the RMG mailing list simply by sending 12 #9 or #10 business sized S.A.S.E.s to RMG at the same address as on the back page of this newsletter. You will then get all of the latest sales info as it is printed.

## "THE BEST OF"-PROJECT:

There was a bit more discussion on the subject of our "Best Of" project. So far, no one has come up with a list of "promising" items to be assessed for inclusion in the final product. We have also only heard from about 3-4 of our readers as to being interested in purchasing a copy when, and if, it gets completed. We will probably do the work in any case, but it would be an added bonus for the club to gain monetarily from the project. Our treasury sure could use it! We ask that all of our members who have back issues of THE PLOTTER go through them and compile a short list of articles, programs, reviews or anything else that is ORIGINAL to the group. No reprints will be considered for inclusion. Turn them in at a meeting or mail them to us at the address on the back of this newsletter. Thanks!

That's if for now!  
See you next time. . .

## GREAT CIRCLE PROGRAM

This is a 2068 program derived from a program in the book, 80 Practical Time-Saving Programs For The TRS-80, by Charles Carroll. The original was for GWBASIC and similar Basics.

The great circle, as I understand it, is essentially the shortest distance across the Earth sphere, as if it was a globe on a stand and a string was placed between two points, the origin and the destination. The string, if properly placed, would measure the shortest distance between these points. This program does just that, calculating the distance in nautical miles. The bearing is also given in degrees.

A world atlas can be used for obtaining the latitude and longitude of locations on the Earth. When the latitude is given as South, it is entered as a negative number as is longitude when given as East. The numbers in degrees must be in decimal so minutes and seconds must be converted by dividing by 60.

In running the author's problem, I came within about 2 miles in over 4400 nautical miles, so computers and calculators may not give exact results. The bearing came out exactly the same.

In keying in the equations, watch for parentheses as it is critical that they be exact.

Example:

Portland, Oregon

45.42 degrees N. Latitude

122.67 degrees W. Longitude

Tokyo

35.75 degrees N. Latitude

139.75 degrees E. Longitude

Distance=4203.7401 nautical miles  
Bearing=301.15454 degrees

If the origin and destinations are reversed, the distance is the same but the Bearing is 42.74278 degrees. To change nautical miles to statute miles, multiply nautical miles by 1.151.

Dick Wagner

```
5 REM GREAT CIRCLE PROGRAM
10 CLS
20 PRINT "When entering DATA,
Southern Latitudes and Eastern
Longitudes must be entered as n
egative numbers."
25 PRINT
30 PRINT "Enter Latitude and L
ongitude (LAT, LON) of the st
arting point"
40 INPUT "LAT1 = ";LA1, "LON1
= ";LO1
45 PRINT
50 PRINT "Enter Latitude and L
ongitude (LAT, LON) of the de
stination"
55 INPUT "LAT2 = ";LA2, "LON2
= ";LO2
60 PRINT
65 LET N=.01745329
70 LET A=SIN (LA1*N)*SIN (LA2*
N)+COS (LA1*N)*COS (LA2*N)*COS (
(LON2-LON1)*N)
80 LET D=60*(-ATN (A/SQR (-A*A
+1)))+1.5708)*57.29579
90 LET C=(SIN (LA2*N)-(SIN (LA
1*N)*COS (D/60*N)))/(SIN (D/60*N
))*COS (LA1*N))
100 LET H=(-ATN (C/SQR (-C*C+1)
)+1.5708)*57.29579
110 LET F=SIN (LON2-LON1)
120 IF F>=0 THEN LET H=360-H
130 PRINT "THE DISTANCE IS ";D;
" NAUTICAL MILES AT A BEARING OF
";H;" DEGREES."
```

## MEETING ROOM

As many of you already know, -if you were at the last meeting, we may have to find a new place to meet sometime after the first of the year. Far West Federal Bank is being run by the Fed at the moment and is being sold. When sold, there is no guarantee that there will be a community room as we know it available. They told us that we should not wait until the last minute to find an alternative.

I have made a few phone calls, starting with the Oregon City Chamber of Commerce. From them I received a list of places that have meeting rooms available. Here is a short run-down on what I found after a few hours at the phone:

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Dick Wagner





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```
38 LET d=((c-s)*(1-2/1)^(t-1))
/(1-t+1): RETURN
50 PRINT PAPER 6,AT 2,2;" Depreciation Calculations ": PAPER 7
:AT 6,11:" Options ":AT 8,7:"1. Straight-Line ":AT 9,7:"2. Sum-of-Years ":AT 10,7:"3. Double-Declining":AT 11,7:"4. Compare methods "
52 INPUT : PAPER 7; FLASH 1:"Enter option (1-4): ":x
54 LET x=INT x: IF (x<1)+(x>4) THEN BEEP 1.-20: GO TO 52
56 PAPER 7: PRINT PAPER 6:AT 7++x,4:">>": PAUSE 100: CLS
60 IF x=1 THEN PRINT PAPER 6,"1. Straight-Line Depreciation "
62 IF x=2 THEN PRINT PAPER 6,"2. Sum-of-Years Digits Method "
64 IF x=3 THEN PRINT PAPER 6,"3. Double-Declining-Balance "
66 IF x=4 THEN PRINT PAPER 6,"4. Comparison of all methods "
70 PRINT : PRINT "Original Cost: ": INPUT c: PRINT c
72 PRINT "Salvage Value: ": INPUT s: PRINT s: IF (s>=c)+(s<0) THEN BEEP 1.-20: CLS : GO TO 60
74 PRINT "Lifetime (yr): ": INPUT l: LET l=ABS l: PRINT l
76 IF x=4 THEN GO TO 120
80 PRINT : PRINT "Year Depreciation Book Value ": PRINT "
90 LET t=INT ((1+1)/2)+1: LET b=c: FOR z=1 TO l: GO SUB 20+5*x
95 LET b=b-d: LET v=d: GO SUB 20: LET d=c: LET y=b: GO SUB 20: LET b=c: PRINT TAB 2;z:
100 PRINT TAB 15-LEN d$:d$:TAB 29-LEN b$:b$: NEXT z: STOP :
120 PRINT : PRINT "Yr":TAB 4;"S traight":TAB 14;"Sum-of":TAB 23;"Double-": PRINT "#":TAB 5;"-Lin e":TAB 14;"-Years":TAB 23;"Declining": PRINT "
130 LET t=INT ((1+1)/2)+1
140 FOR z=1 TO l: GO SUB 25: LET y=d: GO SUB 20: LET s=c: GO SUB 30: LET y=d: GO SUB 20: LET b=c: GO SUB 35: LET y=d: GO SUB 20: LET d=c: PRINT z:
150 PRINT TAB 11-LEN s$:s$:TAB 21-LEN b$:b$:TAB 31-LEN d$:d$
160 NEXT z
```

NOTE: lines 80 & 120--  
use GRAPHIC 3

## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Last month I was short of space! to give credit for two short articles. The first "Did You Know" was from the book, How to create Adventure Games, by christopher Lampton which is a short book of about 80 pages and was written as a Computer Awareness book. It takes the reader through the steps to produce an adventure program.

The second "Did You Know" article was from a 1983 edition of The IBM, PC-DOS Handbook by Richard Allen King, a SIBEX book from the local library. Some of the data is out of date as version 2.0 is the latest MS-DOS covered.

I also obtained this interesting bit of information--what is the origin of "bug" and "debug" often used in the computer jargon. Well, it seems that back in the days before PCs, when all kinds of electro and mechanical devices were incorporated into those large machines called main frames, an effort was being made to find why a machine failed to operate properly. Ultimately the compressed body of a moth was found caught in the workings of a relay. Upon removal the machine proceeded function properly. This seems to be the origin of the terms "bug" and "debug". Recently I saw a picture of what was reputed to be this moth pinned to daily work record. So much for history!

Some more information--the first PC-DOS version 1.0 and 1.1 were limited to managing floppy disk systems. Version 2.0 was developed to manage the new fixed disk systems (hard drives) being offered in the latest PC computers.

At an October swap meet where all kinds of computer paraphernalia was traded/sold, I purchased an early model of the NEC8102A lap top computer, which puts it back about 1 step above the 2068. However, it is so modern that it includes circuitry and programs for a bar reader. Do

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you remember when there was a wish for a bar reader for your computer? Such improvements as a tape drive terminal including control of the motor drive, 3 serial ports with 3 kinds of connections, a parallel printer port, bar reader port, a plug-in RAM port, two blocks of 32k RAM, an additional 32k ROM socket, batteries and power supply are part of the machine. Ten function keys, a 40 by 8 screen, a BASIC language, a telecommunication program and an elementary word processor on ROM are included. Someone has added a second ROM chip with an enhanced text program plus a machine code generating program. Another "feature" is addressable 32k of RAM in two banks, the idea being that an operating program can be in one bank and the data can be on the second bank.

Those readers who have used the Radio Shack 100 lap top will recognize many of these features. So much for feature trade offs. The 8102A lacks disk drive capability so the idea is to send programs back and forth from a MS-DOS compatible computer with disk drive capabilities. So far that idea hasn't been successful for me. Some day I will solve the technique of transmitting and receiving directly through the serial ports. There are a batch of utilities and programs obtained with the computer that I would like to use. Maybe a good reader out there can give me the complete details of how to do this, using null cable.

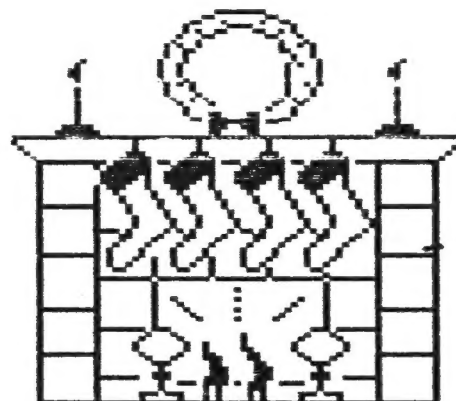
One more bit of wisdom heard recently, "Computers get out of date so fast these days that if you can buy it, it is out of date".

# Happy Holidays



GRAPHICS COURTESY  
DOTTY BUNDY of  
VENTURA, CALIFORNIA

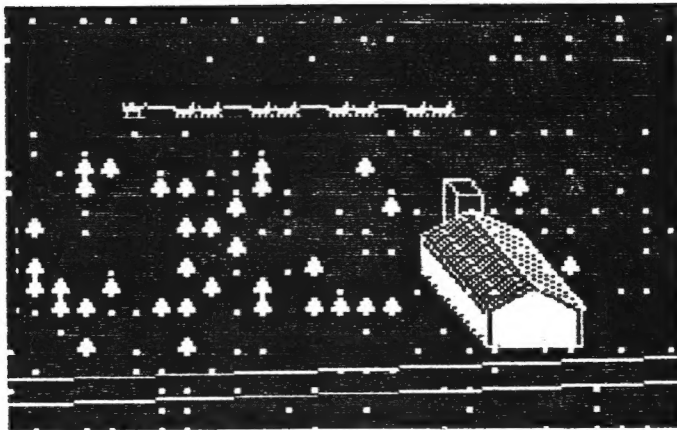
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HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM  
MEMBERS OF CCATS  
and THE PLOTTER

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1419 1/2 7TH Street  
Oregon City, OR 97045

ROD GOWEN (TREASURER)  
1419 1/2 7TH STREET  
OREGON CITY, OR 97045  
A0003:12<91/ML